

# STATE OF DELAWARE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING COORDINATION

September 25, 2013

Mr. Roger Brickley 4450 Summit Bridge Road Middletown, DE 19709

RE: PLUS review 2013-08-06, Bradford Pond

Dear Mr. Brickley,

Thank you for meeting with State agency planners on August 28, 2013 to discuss the proposed plans for Bradford Pond. According to the information received, you are seeking review of a zoning change for a 26 lot subdivision with age restrictions to the same without age restrictions.

Please note that changes to the plan, other than those suggested in this letter, could result in additional comments from the State. Additionally, these comments reflect only issues that are the responsibility of the agencies represented at the meeting. The developers will also need to comply with any Federal, State and local regulations regarding this property. We also note that as New Castle County is the governing authority over this land, the developers will need to comply with any and all regulations/restrictions set forth by the County.

# **Strategies for State Policies and Spending**

This project is located in Investment Level 1 according to the *Strategies for State Policies and Spending*. Investment Level 1 reflects areas that are already developed in an urban or suburban fashion, where infrastructure is existing or readily available, and where future redevelopment or infill projects are expected and encouraged by State policy.

## **Code Requirements/Agency Permitting Requirements**

## State Historic Preservation Office – Contact Terrence Burns 736-7404

• There are no known cultural or historic resources, such as a National Register-listed property or an Archaeological Site, on this parcel. However, if there will be any development or construction activity on the parcel, it is still important that the developer be aware of the Delaware's Unmarked Human Burials and Human Skeletal Remains Law, which is outlined in Chapter 54 of Title 7 of the Delaware Code.

Abandoned or unmarked family cemeteries are very common in the State of Delaware. They are usually in rural or open space areas, and sometimes near or within the boundary of an historic farm site. Even a marked cemetery can frequently have unmarked graves or burials outside of the known boundary line or limit. Disturbing unmarked graves or burials triggers the Delaware's Unmarked Human Burials and Human Skeletal Remains Law (Delaware Code Title 7, Chapter 54), and such remains or discoveries can result in substantial delays while the procedures required under this law are carried out. If there is a discovery of any unmarked graves, burials or a cemetery, it is very costly to have them archaeologically excavated and the burials moved. The Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs recommends that owners and/or developers have a qualified archaeological consultant investigate their project area, to the full extent, to see if there is any unmarked cemetery, graves, or burial sites. In the event of such a discovery, the Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs also recommends that the plans be re-drawn to leave the full extent of the cemeteries or any burials on its own parcel or in the open space area of the development, with the responsibility for its maintenance lying with the landowner association or development. If you would like to know more information that pertains to unmarked human remains or cemeteries, please check the following websites for additional information: www.history.delaware.gov/preservation/umhr.shtml and www.history.delaware.gov/preservation/cemeteries.shtml.

Therefore, prior to any demolition or ground-disturbing activities, the developer should consider hiring an archaeological consultant to examine the parcel for potential historic or cultural resources, such as a potential archaeological site, a cemetery or unmarked human remains. Furthermore, if there is any federal involvement with the project, in the form of licenses, permits, or funds, the federal agency, often through its client, is responsible for complying with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR 800) and must consider their project's effects on any known or potential cultural or historic resources. Owners and developers who may plan to apply for an Army Corps of Engineers permit or for federal funding, such as HUD or USDA grants, should be aware of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). Regulations promulgated for Section 106 of this Act stipulate that no ground-disturbing or demolition activities should take place before the Corps or other involved federal agency determines the area of potential effect of the project undertaking. These stipulations are in place to allow for comment from the public, the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office, and the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation about the project's effects on historic properties. Furthermore, any preconstruction activities without adherence to these stipulations may jeopardize the issuance of any permit or funds. If you need further information or additional details pertaining to the Section 106 process and the Advisory Council's role, please review the Advisory Council's website at www.achp.gov.

# <u>Department of Transportation – Contact Bill Brockenbrough 760-2109</u>

• The proposed development's subdivision plan and subdivision street construction plan must be designed in accordance with DelDOT's <u>Standards and Regulations for Subdivision Streets and State Highway Access</u>. DelDOT will review the subdivision

plan for necessary changes, due either to the lifting of the deed restrictions or to changes in our regulations since the current plan was recorded. Preliminarily, a right turn lane may be needed on Old Baltimore Pike at Wentworth Lane.

• The proposed development would not meet DelDOT's volume-based criteria, found in Section 2.3.2 of the <u>Standards and Regulations for Subdivision Streets and State Highway Access</u>, for recommending that a Traffic Impact Study (TIS) be required (400 vehicle trips per day or 50 vehicle trips per hour). The table below compares the expected trip generation of the development as currently recorded and as proposed.

			Daily	AM Peak	PM Peak
Dwellings	Land Use	ITE Code	(vpd)	(vph)	(vph)
26	Proposed	230	199	18	20
	Townhouses				
26	Recorded,	252	89	5	8
	Age-Restricted				
	Townhouses				
0	Increase	N/A	110	13	12

# Delaware State Fire Marshall's Office – Contact Duane Fox 739-4394

At the time of formal submittal, the applicant shall provide; completed application, fee, and three sets of plans depicting the following in accordance with the Delaware State Fire Prevention Regulation:

# • <u>Fire Protection Water Requirements</u>:

- Water distribution system capable of delivering at least 1000 gpm for 1-hour duration, at 20-psi residual pressure is required. Fire hydrants with 800 feet spacing on centers.
- Where a water distribution system is proposed for townhouse type dwelling sites, the infrastructure for fire protection water shall be provided, including the size of water mains.

#### • Fire Protection Features:

o For townhouse buildings, provide a section / detail and the UL design number of the 2-hour fire rated separation wall on the Site plan

# Accessibility:

- All premises which the fire department may be called upon to protect in case of fire, and which are not readily accessible from public roads, shall be provided with suitable gates and access roads, and fire lanes so that all buildings on the premises are accessible to fire apparatus.
- Fire department access shall be provided in such a manner so that fire apparatus will be able to locate within 100 ft. of the front door.
- O Any dead end road more than 300 feet in length shall be provided with a turnaround or cul-de-sac arranged such that fire apparatus will be able to turn around by making not more than one backing maneuver. The minimum paved radius of the cul-de-sac shall be 38 feet. The dimensions of the cul-de-sac or

- turn-around shall be shown on the final plans. Also, please be advised that parking is prohibited in the cul-de-sac or turn around.
- The use of speed bumps or other methods of traffic speed reduction must be in accordance with Department of Transportation requirements.
- The local Fire Chief, prior to any submission to this Agency, shall approve in writing the use of gates that limit fire department access into and out of the development or property.

## • Gas Piping and System Information:

o Provide type of fuel proposed, and show locations of bulk containers on plan.

# • Required Notes:

- Provide a note on the final plans submitted for review to read "All fire lanes, fire hydrants, and fire department connections shall be marked in accordance with the Delaware State Fire Prevention Regulations"
- Proposed Use
- o Square footage of each structure (Total of all Floors)
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Construction Type
- Maximum Height of Buildings (including number of stories)
- o Name of Water Provider
- Letter from Water Provider approving the system layout
- o Townhouse 2-hr separation wall details shall be shown on site plans
- o Provide Road Names, even for County Roads

## **Recommendations/Additional Information**

This section includes a list of site specific suggestions that are intended to enhance the project. These suggestions have been generated by the State Agencies based on their expertise and subject area knowledge. **These suggestions do not represent State code requirements.** They are offered here in order to provide proactive ideas to help the applicant enhance the site design, and it is hoped (**but in no way required**) that the applicant will open a dialogue with the relevant agencies to discuss how these suggestions can benefit the project.

## Delaware State Fire Marshall's Office – Contact Duane Fox 739-4394

Preliminary meetings with fire protection specialists are encouraged prior to formal submittal. Please call for appointment. Applications and brochures can be downloaded from our website: <a href="www.statefiremarshal.delaware.gov">www.statefiremarshal.delaware.gov</a>, technical services link, plan review, applications or brochures.

Following receipt of this letter and upon filing of an application with the local jurisdiction, the applicant shall provide to the local jurisdiction and the Office of State Planning Coordination a written response to comments received as a result of the pre-application process, noting whether comments were incorporated into the project design or not and the reason therefore.

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Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If you have any questions, please contact me at 302-739-3090.

Sincerely,

Constance C. Holland, AICP

Director, Office of State Planning Coordination

CC: New Castle County